



The meeting held on **14th September , 2008** was early this month as we wanted volunteers to be aware of upcoming events. The attendance was small but there was some vibrant and useful discussion among those present.

We continued to discuss the **Green Ribbon Campaign**. September 21st is to be recognized as International Day of Peace. Special Assemblies are to be held in schools throughout the months of September and October and are to be videotaped. It is intended to have the tapes viewed on television (Channel 12) to showcase the schools who participated.

Bracelets are to be distributed to the schools for students to wear to show their support of peaceful conflict resolution.

The National Day to End Sexual Violence is to be recognized with an Exhibition in the Mall at Marathon and the Prime Minister has been asked to sign a Declaration. The Exhibition is to be held from Saturday 27th September to Friday 3rd October and other agencies have been invited to participate.

A discussion was held to suggest ways to get men involved in the fight against sexual violence....going into barber shops, junkanoo shacks and so on. There were mixed feelings as to how well we might be received!

**Lisa Benjamin** presented on proposed changes to the Sexual Offences Act. In the new legislation, there would be:

- life sentence can be granted under the proposed amendments for a first offence of rape
- for marital rape this can be prosecuted if there is a 'decree nisi'.  
The Judge would use discretion depending on how heinous the crime committed.

- The inclusion of pornography and procurement to sexual activity of those under 18 years of age and over the internet procurement of minors.
- Sentences for incest of a child could result in a life sentence
- A life sentence could be given for a homosexual act between an adult and a child
- A homosexual act between two consenting adults, if carried out in public, could result in life imprisonment.
- A life sentence could be given for producing child porn



*Meetings are held on the **3rd Saturday of every month** and we try to call all volunteers to remind them. However, please keep the dates in mind, as it is not always possible to call everybody.*

*We welcome calls to the office to ask about any meetings, events and activities in which you might be interested. **Novelette** is our **Administrator** and she is always happy to hear from you.*

***Hotline volunteers** are asked to report any calls they have received while on duty. We continue to thank all of you for keeping this essential service going, especially those who cover the entire weekend.*

**www.bahamascrisiscentre.org** now has even more brochures on it so if you need information on any issues we address, please check it out!

Looking forward to seeing you on **Saturday, 18th October at 10.00am**